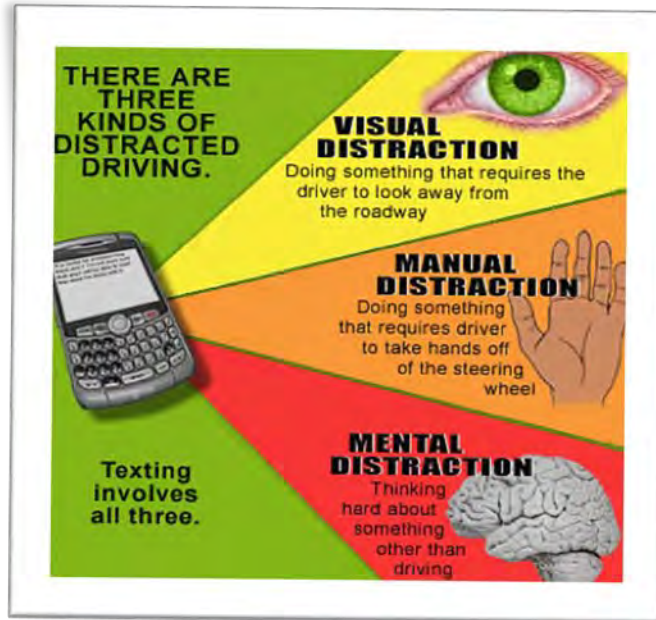


From the Police Department

The National Safety Council has designated April as Distracted Driving Awareness Month. [Thousands of people die each year](#) in crashes caused by cell phone use while driving. But phone calls and text messages aren't the only distractions drivers should try to avoid while behind the wheel.



10 Tips to Avoid Distractions While Driving

1. Fully focus on driving. Do not let anything divert your attention, actively scan the road, use your mirrors and watch out for pedestrians and cyclists.
2. Store loose gear, possessions and other distractions that could roll around in the car, so you do not feel tempted to reach for them on the floor or the seat.
3. Make adjustments before you get underway. Address vehicle systems like your GPS, seats, mirrors, climate controls and sound systems before hitting the road. Decide on your route and check traffic conditions ahead of time.
4. Finish dressing and personal grooming at home - before you get on the road.
5. Snack smart. If possible, eat meals or snacks before or after your trip, not while driving. On the road, avoid messy foods that can be difficult to manage.
6. Secure children and pets before getting underway. If they need your attention, pull off the road safely to care for them. Reaching into the backseat can cause you to lose control of the vehicle.
7. Put aside your electronic distractions. Don't use cell phones while driving - handheld or hands-free - except in absolute emergencies. Never use text messaging, email functions, video games or the internet with a wireless device, including those [built into the vehicle](#), while driving.
8. If you have passengers, enlist their help so you can focus safely on driving.
9. If another activity demands your attention, instead of trying to attempt it while driving, pull off the road and stop your vehicle in a safe place. To avoid temptation, power down or stow devices before heading out.
10. As a general rule, if you cannot devote your full attention to driving because of some other activity, it's a distraction. Take care of it before or after your trip, not while behind the wheel.

From the Police Department (continued)

“It Was Just...”

It was just a quick call

It was just a short trip

It was just one drink

It was just a picture

It was just an email

It was just a glance

It was just a text

It was just a bite

**‘Just’ is all
it takes**



On a personal note...

Dearest Community,

On behalf of the entire Sturgill family, I would like to thank all of you for the outpouring of support my family has received after the passing of my father, James D. Sturgill on February 10, 2018. The thoughtful messages, cards, calls and other expressions of sympathy were very much appreciated.

I would also like to express my gratitude to the entire staff of the Cuyahoga Heights Police Department for their extensive support during this difficult time. It was very reassuring and comforting to have such a dedicated staff of professionals in place during my extended and numerous absences over the past few months.

Finally, I would like to personally thank Mayor Jack Bacci and Ptl. Gary Foote-BHPD for traveling over four-hundred miles to pay their respects to my father and for always “having my six”. Gentlemen, you have no idea how much that meant to me, my mother and the rest of the family.

These meaningful acts will never be forgotten.

Respectfully;

Chief Sturgill



From the Dispatch Department

The emergency warning sirens are tested the first Saturday of every month at noon, the siren will run for one minute. Our Village has three sirens located throughout the Village, one is on the roof of the Fire Department, one is on Chapek Drive and the other is on a building at Northeast Regional Sewer Department. These sirens are used to mainly inform the public of any tornado warning in Cuyahoga County.



Residents:

If you are not in our SwiftReach system and would like to be, you can either use the SwiftReach portal on the Cuyahoga Heights Village Website on the Police page or contact Dispatch Supervisor Barb Cash at the Police Department directly at 216-883-6800. The SwiftReach system is used to notify our residents and businesses, by telephone, of any emergency situations that may occur in Cuyahoga Heights. The telephone numbers you supply the Police Department are kept strictly confidential and are not given out to the public.



From the Fire Department

On March 3rd firefighter Pete Panizzutti and Lieutenant Steve Harris took part in the Fight for Air Climb to benefit the American Lung Association. Each firefighter climbed 42 floors (802 stairs) of Cleveland's Terminal Tower in full turnout gear and air tanks. Congratulations to both men for completing this fundraising event.



1,200 TORNADOES
HIT THE U.S. EACH YEAR

Make sure you **DUCK** during a tornado!

Down - Get down to the lowest level
Under - Get under something
Cover your head
Kee in the shelter until the storm has passed

